

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for servicing streaming media comprising:

receiving, at a computer system, said streaming media;

determining, at said computer system, an allocation of available processing and memory resources;

performing, at said computer system, a first multi-stage service on said streaming media; [[and]]

caching, at said computer system, an intermediate result from one of the stages of said first multi-stage service, said intermediate result selected according to said available processing and memory resources; and

performing, at said computer system, a second multi-stage service on said intermediate result.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said first service is a computing-intensive media services.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said resources are selected from the group consisting of a transcoder, a first cache, and a second cache.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said first service comprises transcoding functions.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~said result~~ one of the stages of said second multi-stage service produces a second result, wherein said second result is a final transcoding result.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein said transcoding functions are selected from the group consisting of frame rate reduction, bit rate reduction and resolution reduction.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said caching comprises caching intermediate transcoding results of an output stream of said streaming media provided a target bit rate of said output stream of said streaming media is greater than a data caching rate of said streaming media.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein said intermediate transcoding results comprise meta data that is selected from the group consisting of pixel, block, macroblock, picture and sequence.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein said transcoding functions are performed by resources selected from the group that consist of motion vector generator, bit rate controller and parser.

10. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium having computer readable code embodied therein for causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

receiving streaming media at said computer;

determining, with said computer, an allocation of available processing and memory resources;

performing, with said computer, a first multi-stage service on said streaming media; [[and]]

caching, with said computer, an intermediate result from one of the stages of said first multi-stage service, said intermediate result selected according to said available processing and memory resources; and

performing, with said computer, a second multi-stage service on said intermediate result.

11. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein said first service is a computing intensive service.

12. (Original) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 11, wherein said resources are selected from the group consisting of a transcoder, a first cache, and a second cache.

13. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein said first service comprises transcoding functions.

14. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein ~~said result~~ one of the stages of said second multi-stage service produces a second result, wherein said second result is a final transcoding result.

15. (Original) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 13, wherein said transcoding functions are selected from the group consisting of frame rate reduction, bit rate reduction and resolution reduction.

16. (Original) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 10, wherein said caching comprises caching intermediate transcoding results of an output stream of said streaming media provided a target bit rate of said output stream of said streaming media is greater than a data caching rate of said streaming media.

17. (Original) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 16, wherein said intermediate transcoding results comprise meta data that is selected from the group consisting of pixel, block, macroblock, picture and sequence.

18. (Original) The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of Claim 13, wherein said transcoding functions are performed by resources selected from the group that consist of motion vector generator, bit rate controller and parser.

19. (Currently Amended) A device for servicing streaming data comprising:  
a processor for determining available processing and memory resources; [[and]]

memory for caching an intermediate transcoding result from a stage of a first multi-stage data service, said intermediate transcoding result selected according to said available processing and memory resources; and

wherein said processor is for performing a second multi-stage service on said intermediate result.

20. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein said first service is a computing intensive service.

21. (Original) The device of Claim 20, wherein said resources are selected from the group consisting of a transcoder, a first cache, and a second cache.

22. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein said intermediate transcoding result is selected from any of the respective stages of said first multi-stage data service.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein said intermediate result is selected to optimize the balance of processing and memory resources used in providing said first service.

24. (Original) The device of Claim 19, wherein said device performs transcoding functions that are selected from the group consisting of frame rate reduction, bit rate reduction and resolution reduction.

25. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein said caching comprises caching intermediate transcoding results of an output stream of said streaming data provided a target bit rate of said output stream of said streaming data is greater than a data caching rate of said streaming data.

26. (Original) The device of Claim 25, wherein said intermediate transcoding results comprise meta data that is selected from the group consisting of pixel, block, macroblock, picture and sequence.

27. (Original) The device of Claim 24, wherein said transcoding functions are performed by resources selected from the group that consist of motion vector generator, bit rate controller and parser.